

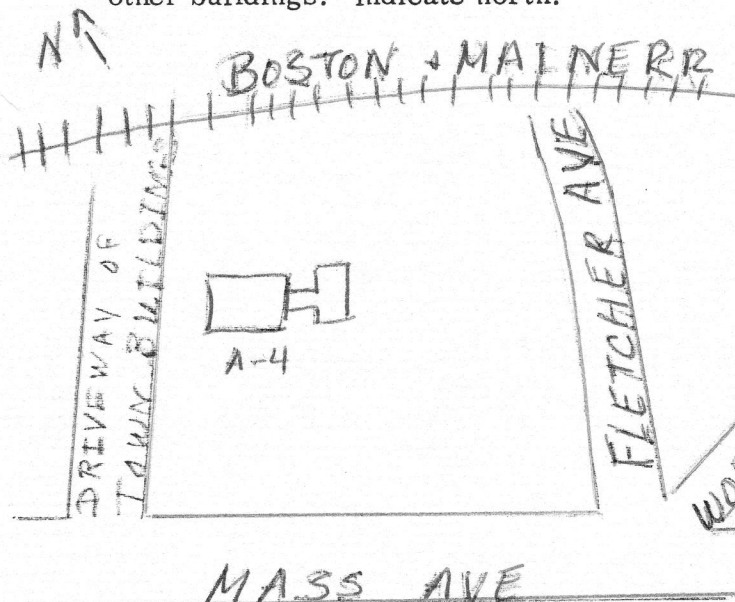
FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
A	4



4. Map. Draw sketch of building in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____
MHC Photo no. _____

Lexington

SS 1557 Mass. Avenue

("Dr. Barnes property")

nt use School Admin. Building

nt owner Town of Lexington

ription:

C. 1845

urce Ed Worthen's notes (LHS)

Greek Revival

itect

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard

Outbuildings (describe)

Other features Ridge roof - two chimneys-
(one, also on addition in rear, making three)

Three additions - one rear; one an ell to
(over)

Altered _____ Date _____

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less _____ Over one acre x

Approximate frontage 163'

Approximate distance of building from street

60'

6. Recorded by Ruth Beebe

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date Oct. 14, 1975

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) _____

Original use _____

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates 1937 - Bought by Town for School Administration Bldg.

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	_____	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	_____				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Other features (cont.) that & attached garage -closed pediment gables either end-heavy cornice - heavy paneled pilasters at corners - front door on gable end, to the right - side lights - posts & lintel doorway - granite & brick foundation.

According to the reminiscences of Mrs. Chas. C. Goodwin, William Hosmer built this house (no date given, no information on Hosmer's background).

On the 1889 map, a "Dr. Livermore" is living here (no background information on him).

At one time, the Putnam family lived here, and, of course, in the 1930s, 1940s, it was the homes of Dr. William S. Barnes, who first came to Lexington in 1906, but not to this location.

(Source: Lexington Historical Society)

S. Lawrence Whipple, 1984

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

LHS - Lexington Historical Society Archives.

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.

Form no.

4

Town Lexington

Address 1557 Massachusetts Ave.

Name Public School Administration

Bldg.
Present use school dept. offices

Present owner Town of Lexington

Description:

Date mid-19th c.

Source conjecture

Style Greek Revival

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) small attached carriagehouse

Other features 2½ house with rear L.

4-bay side L connects to carriage house.

~~early ionic column porch replaced~~
Altered by verandah Date see photos

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less _____ Over one acre X

Approximate frontage 200'

Approximate distance of building from street
100'

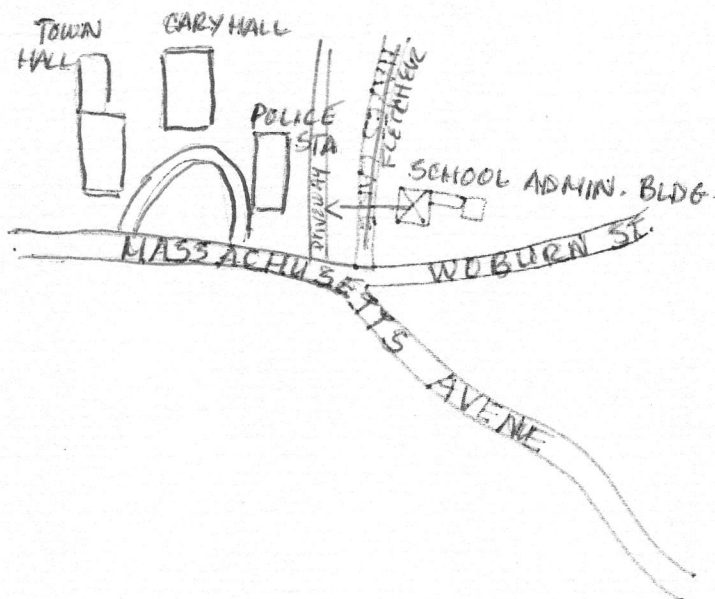
6. Recorded by Harriet White

Organization MAPC

Date 8/1/78



4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



(over),

7. Original owner (if known) possibly Putney family

Original use dwelling

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates doctor's office, medical clinic, school offices

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	<u>X</u>	Religion	_____
Architectural	_____	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	<u>X</u>
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	_____				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

May have been Putney Homestead. Was formerly a doctor's office, known as the Barnes Property. During WW I served as a hospital for victims of the flu epidemic.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Lexington

Form No:

4

Property Name:

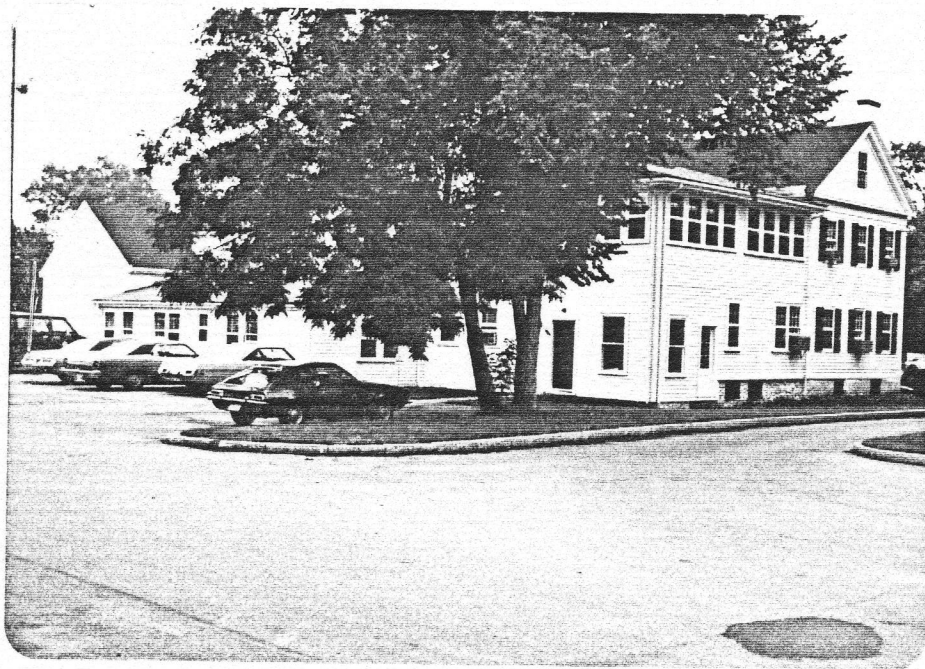
School Adminis. Bldg.

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

Other features:

Wide corner boards. Fieldstone foundation clad with brick.
2-panel entrance door offset to right with sidelights.

Interior--Shaped, plain window lintels, 2-panel doors, beautiful stair with squat, typically Greek Revival newel post. Parquet floors. Marble fireplace mantels, one is an unusual deep, purple-red marble. Arched hallway openings with Doric columns. High baseboards with echinus moldings. In attic are several layers of print and stencilled wallpaper.



Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town
LEXINGTON

Property Address
1557 MASS. AVE.

Area(s) Form No.

A

4

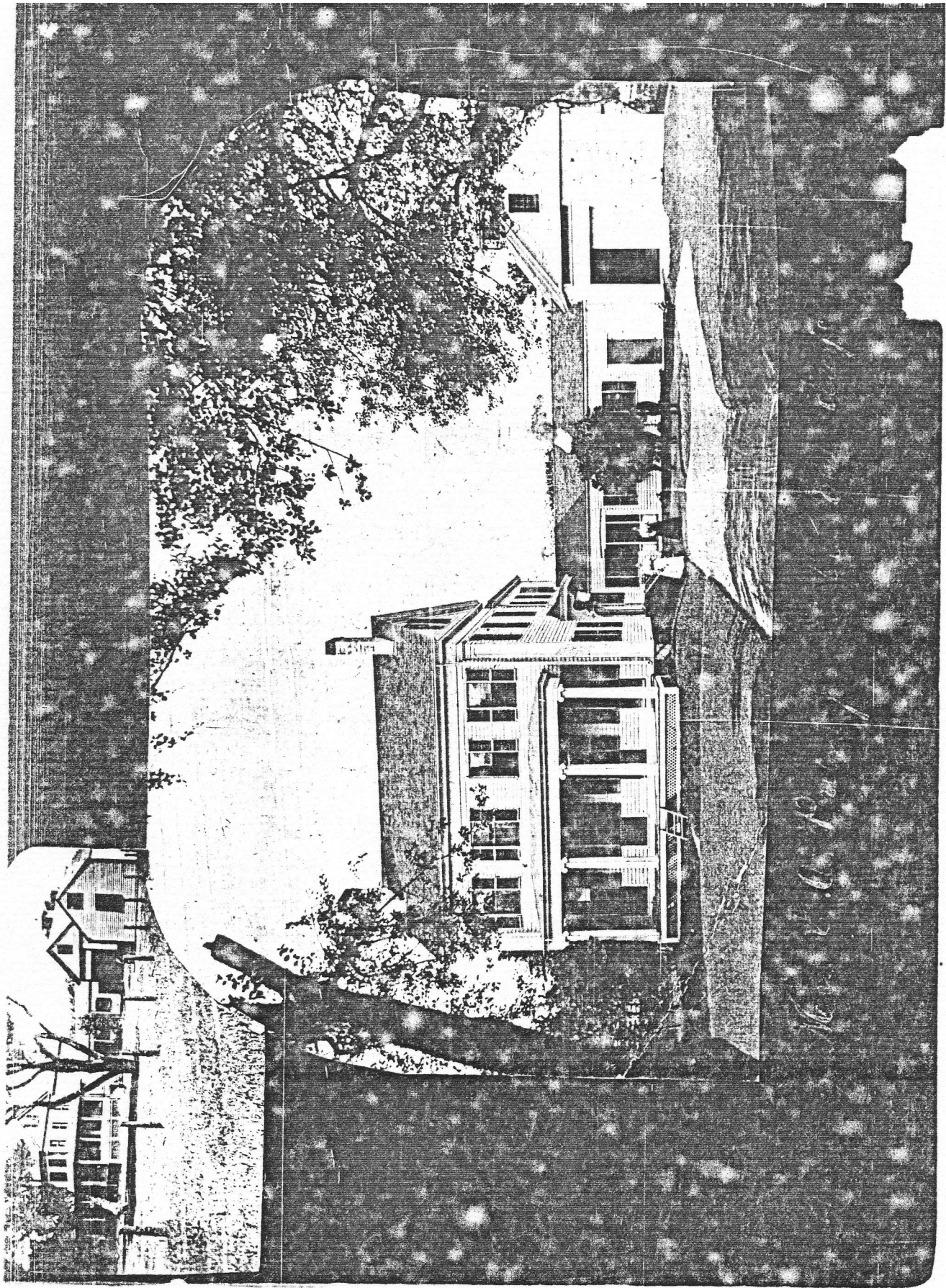


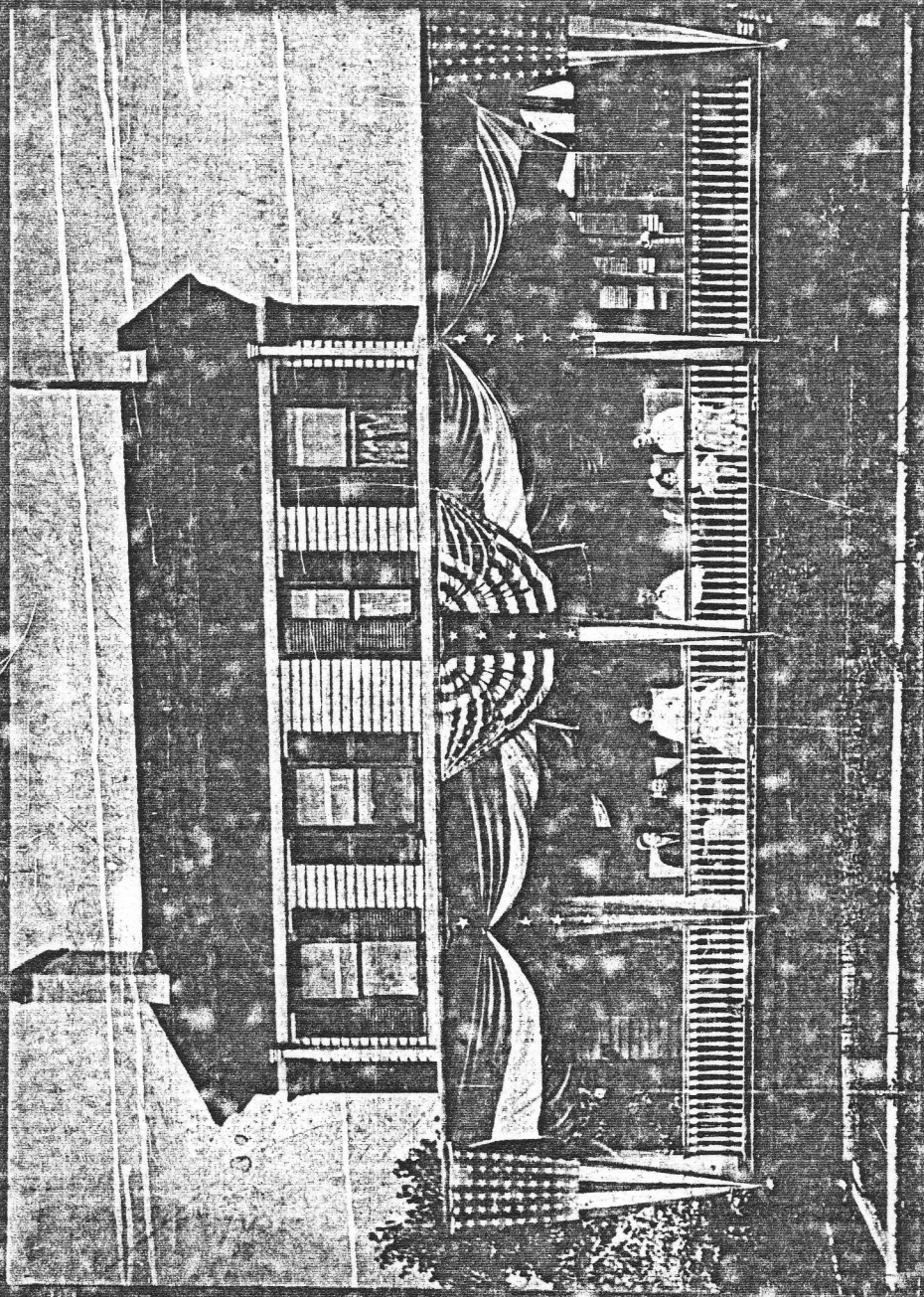
Undated photograph of 1575 Mass. Ave.

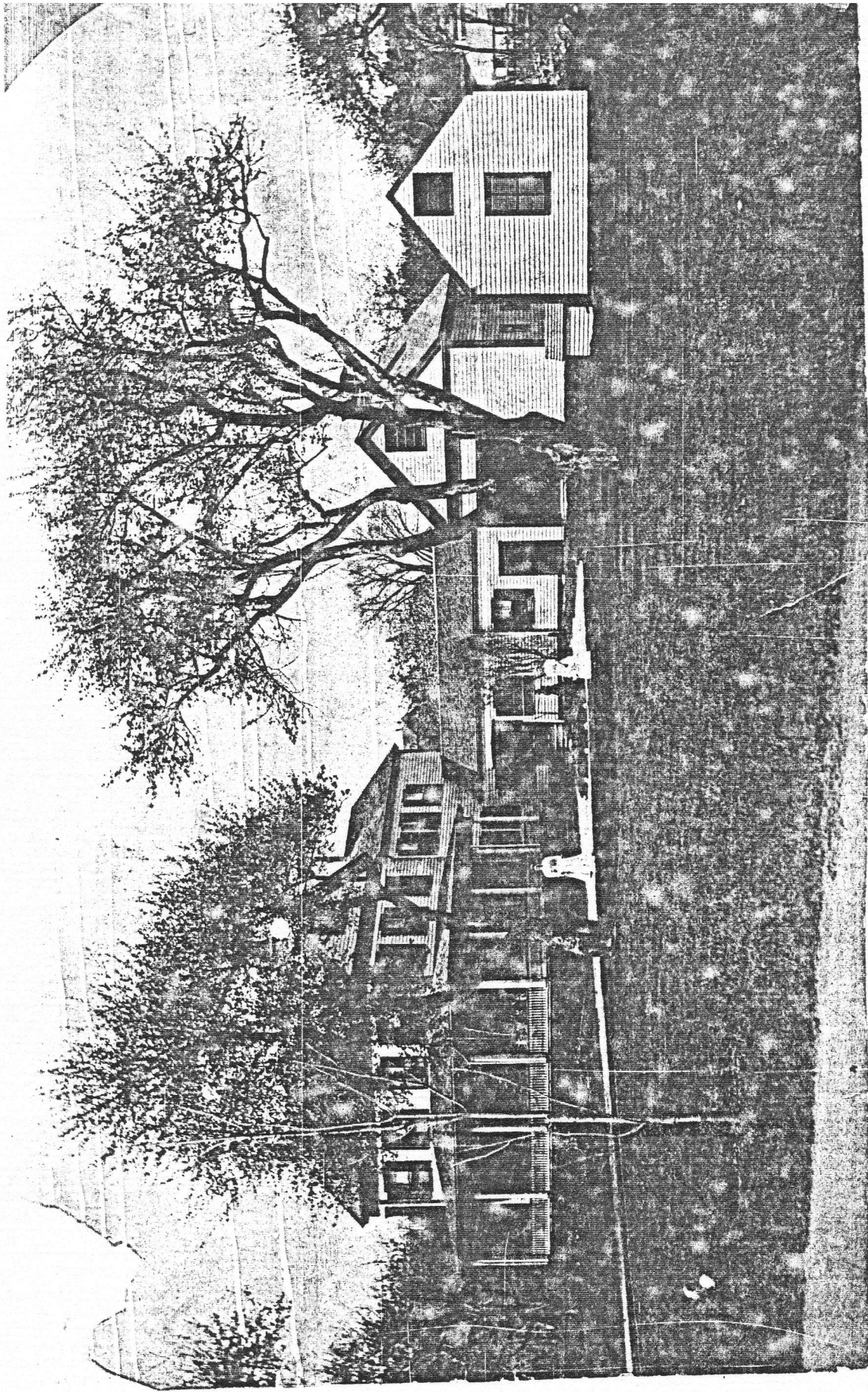
Dr. Barnes owned this house and used the wing as his office. The property was purchased by the Town of Lexington in 1937 and used as an office building. It was also housed the headquarters for the Sachem Council of the Boy Scouts. The School Department has used the building as its headquarters since 1958.

Source: Kelly, Beverly Allison. *Lexington: A Century of Photographs*. Lexington Historical Society, 1980, p. 65.

Supplement prepared by:
Lisa Mausolf
March 2009







INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
LEXINGTON

Property Address
1557 MASS. AVE.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

A

4

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

In the late 17th and 18th century this land, including this building (known as the Barnes Building) and the present Cary Memorial Building was owned by the Estabrook family. In April 1827, the "front lands" of the Estabrook estate was sold to Hammond A. Hosmer, an "innholder" from Boston. Worthen believes he might have been related to the Estabrook family.

On May 25, 1847, Hosmer sold to Abijah W. Farrar the site of the Cary Memorial Building. (Later called the Plumer place.) Hosmer apparently built/retained the house that is now 1557 Massachusetts Avenue and lived here. Not much is known of Hammond Hosmer. Deed records indicate that he bought up several small farms in the area, and would combine them into large homesteads and sell them off. He also owned one or two nearby houses (Fogg House at the end of Hayes Lane, for example -- now demolished), where his hired hands supposedly lived.

Hosmer died in 1854 and his wife, Susan, in 1865. Ownership then passed to their daughter, Susan D. Kenney. In 1866 the property was sold by Susan Kenney to Isaac Wetherell, who sold it in 1871 for \$5,500 to Nancy E. Wentworth, wife of Otis Wentworth. Dr. Aaron H. Livermore purchased the property on February 20, 1889 and died in 1896. After his death, his widow Lydia married Bradley Putney. In 1916 the house was sold by Mrs. Putney's estate to Dr. William L. Barnes for \$6,300.

William Lester Barnes was born at Providence, Rhode Island in 1878 and graduated from Harvard in 1900 and from Harvard Medical School in 1904. He became a resident of Lexington in 1906. Dr. Barnes owned this house and used the wing as his office for approximately twenty years. At some point the carriage house was moved to the rear of 5 Winthrop Road.

Dr. Barnes died in September 1936. The following March, the Town appropriated \$25,000 to purchase the property and it was used for overflow Town offices. In 1950 the house was restored to some degree of historical accuracy by the Town. Custance Brothers were the contractors. The front porch which had been added was removed and new windows with small lights were installed on the front of the first floor.

Over the years, the Barnes Building also housed the headquarters for the Sachem Council of the Boy Scouts. The School Department has used the building as its headquarters since 1958.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Doran, Sam. Information provided to Marilyn Fenollosa, November 2009.
Hudson, Charles. *History of the Town of Lexington*. Cambridge: The Riverside Press Co., 1913.
Kelly, Beverly Allison. *Lexington: A Century of Photographs*. Lexington Historical Society, 1980, p. 65.
Lexington Minute-man, July 27, 1950.
Worthen, Edwin B. *Tracing the Past in Lexington, Massachusetts*. New York: Vantage Press, Inc., 1998.

Supplement prepared by:
Lisa Mausolf
November 2009